



Souhegan River Pedestrian Trail

Merrimack, NH

The Souhegan River Pedestrian Trail in Merrimack, NH, connects key community spaces with a 720-foot accessible pedestrian trail including an elevated boardwalk. This transformative project enhances recreational opportunities, promotes community connectivity and wellness, and showcases engineering excellence, creating a lasting asset for residents and visitors alike.

Innovative Engineering Solutions

The boardwalk employed a “Top Down” construction with helical screw pile foundations to minimize ecological disturbance in sensitive wetland areas. These innovative techniques, combined with precast concrete beams and treads, ensured a sustainable, low-impact solution with a lifespan of 75 years. Another innovative idea used was Foamed Glass Aggregate to reduce loads on the historical walls of the former International Shoe Company canal.



Community Connection

By linking Watson Park to the trail system west of US Route 3 and FE Everett Turnpike, the Souhegan River Pedestrian Trail provides seamless access to Merrimack’s natural beauty, schools, residential areas, business areas and town center. Additionally, the project restored connectivity to the Town Central Business District by restoring the severely deteriorated cantilevered sidewalk located just north of the Chamberlain Bridge. Thoughtful design elements and improved pathways invite residents and visitors to explore, connect, and enjoy the outdoors safely and inclusively.



Sustainable Impact

With a focus on environmental and historical preservation, the project integrated eco-friendly construction methods to protect natural habitats as well as preserving the historical elements. This balance between development and sustainability ensures long-term environmental and historical health and sets a precedent for responsible infrastructure design.



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New Hampshire

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